

STATEMENT OF NASA ADMINISTRATOR DR. THOMAS O. PAINE

July 2, 1970

"On April 9 I requested the GAO to conduct a review of the events leading to the selection of the General Electric Co. rather than the Fairchild-Hiller Corp. to build two Applications Technology Satellites.

"The General Accounting Office has reported to me that the Fairchild-Hiller Co. may not have been accorded an equal opportunity to submit a winning bid because of a one-week extension granted to General Electric who turned in the lower bid.

"At the time the award was made, this time disparity was not known to the selecting officials.

"NASA will therefore reopen the bidding to Fairchild-Hiller and General Electric in strict accordance with our procurement regulations."

(Phoned to news wires, locals, Av Week, GSFC notified)

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